Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended): A method for identifying a compound that modulates T lymphocyte activation, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) contacting the compound with a TRAC1 polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 90% identity to ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide has ligase activity; and

(ii) determining the functional effect of the compound upon ~~the~~ TRAC1 polypeptide activity.

2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the functional effect is measured *in vitro*.

3-5 (cancelled)

6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is heterologous and expressed in a host cell.

7-8 (cancelled)

9 (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the host cell is primary T lymphocyte.

10 (original): The method of claim 6,wherein the host cell is a cultured T cell.

11 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the host cell is a Jurkat cell.

12 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~8~~ 1, wherein the ~~chemical or phenotypic~~ functional effect is determined by measuring CD69 expression, intracellular Ca2+ mobilization, Ca2+ influx, ligase activity, or lymphocyte proliferation.

13 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein modulation is inhibition of T lymphocyte activation.

14 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is recombinant.

15 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1

16 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

17 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein the compound is an antibody.

18 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein the compound is an antisense molecule.

19 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein the compound is a small organic molecule.

20 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein the compound is a peptide.

21 (withdrawn): The method of claim 20, wherein the peptide is circular.

22 (withdrawn): A method for identifying a compound that modulates T lymphocyte activation, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) contacting a T cell comprising a TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof with the compound, the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof encoded by a nucleic acid that

hybridizes under stringent conditions to an antisense nucleic acid corresponding to a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(ii) determining the chemical or phenotypic effect of the compound upon the cell comprising the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof, thereby identifying a compound that modulates T lymphocyte activation.

23 (withdrawn): A method for identifying a compound that modulates T lymphocyte activation, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) contacting the compound with a TRAC1 polypeptide or a fragment thereof, the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to an antisense nucleic acid corresponding to a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;

(ii) determining the physical effect of the compound upon the TRAC1 polypeptide; and

(iii) determining the chemical or phenotypic effect of the compound upon a cell comprising the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof, thereby identifying a compound that modulates T lymphocyte activation.

24 (withdrawn): A method for identifying a compound capable of interfering with binding of an TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) combining an TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof with an E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme polypeptide and the compound, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof is encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(ii) determining the binding of the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof to the E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme polypeptide.

25 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof has ligase activity.

26 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein the E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of Ubc5, Ubc7, and Ubc8.

27 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof and the E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme polypeptide are combined first.

28 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein the reaction is performed in vitro.

29 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof and the E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme polypeptide are expressed in a cell.

30 (withdrawn): The method of claim 29, wherein the cell is a yeast cell.

31 (withdrawn): The method of claim 30, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

32 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, wherein the binding of the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof to the E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme polypeptide is determined by measuring reporter gene expression.

33 (withdrawn): An isolated complex comprising a TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof bound to an E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme polypeptide, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide or fragment thereof is encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

34 (withdrawn): The complex of claim 33, wherein the E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of Ubc5, Ubc7, and Ubc8.

35 (withdrawn): A method of modulating T lymphocyte activation in a subject, the method comprising the step of administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound identified using the method of claim 1.

36 (withdrawn): The method of claim 35, wherein the subject is a human.

37 (withdrawn): The method of claim 35, wherein the compound is an antibody.

38 (withdrawn): The method of claim 35, wherein the compound is an antisense molecule.

39 (withdrawn): The method of claim 35, wherein the compound is a small organic molecule.

40 (withdrawn): The method of claim 35, wherein the compound is a peptide.

41 (withdrawn): The method of claim 40, wherein the peptide is circular.

42 (withdrawn): The method of claim 35, wherein the compound inhibits T lymphocyte activation.

43 (withdrawn): A method of modulating T lymphocyte activation in a subject, the method comprising the step of administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a TRAC1 polypeptide, the polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

44 (withdrawn): The method of claim 43, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

45 (withdrawn): A method of modulating T lymphocyte activation in a subject, the method comprising the step of administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a nucleic acid encoding a TRAC1 polypeptide, wherein the nucleic acid hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

46 (withdrawn): The method of claim 45, wherein the TRAC1 nucleic acid comprises a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

47 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the TRAC1 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% identity to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.